AUGUST 30, 1775. THE NUMBER 65.

VIRGINIA GAZETTE,

OR THE

NORFOLK INTELLIGENCER.

UNI AEQUUS VIRTUTI ATQUE EJUS AMICIS.——Hor.

A SPEECH delivered in Carpe[illegible] 16th, before the Subscribers tow[illegible] eſtabliſhing Manufactories of Woolen, Co[illegible] and Linen in the city of Philadelphia.—Publiſhed at the requeſt of the Company.

GENTLEMEN,

WHEN I reflect upon the extent of the ſubject before me, and conſider the ſmall ſhare of knowledge I poſſeſs of it, I confeſs I riſe with timidity to ſpeak in this aſſembly; and it is only becauſe the requeſts of fellow citizens in every laudable undertaking ſhould always operate with the force of commands, that I have prevailed upon myſelf to execute the taſk you have aſſigned me.

My buſineſs upon this occaſion is to lay before you a few thoughts upon the NECESSITY, POSSIBILITY and ADVANTAGES of eſtabliſhing woolen, cotton and linen manufactories among us.

The NECESSITY of eſtabliſhing theſe manufactures is obvious from the aſſociation of the Congreſs, which puts a ſtop to the importation of Britiſh goods, of which woolens, cottons and linens always made a conſiderable part. So large has been the demand for theſe articles, and ſo very neceſſary are they in this country, that it is impoſſible for us to cloath ourſelves without ſubſtituting ſome others in their room. I am far from thinking that the non-importation agreement will be ſo tranſitory a thing as ſome have ſuppoſed. The appearance of a change of meaſures in England reſpecting the colonies, does not flow from a conviction of their injuſtice. The ſame arbitrary miniſters continue in office, and the ſame arbitrary favourites continue to abuſe the confidence of our Sovereign. Sudden converſions ſhould be truſted with caution, eſpecially when they have been brought about by intereſt or fear. I ſhall think the liberties of America eſtabliſhed at an eaſy price by a two or three years non-importation agreement. By union and perſeverance in this mode of oppoſition to Great-Britain, we ſhall afford a new phœnomenon in the hiſtory of mankind, and furniſh poſterity with an example to teach them that peace, with all the rights of humanity and juſtice, may be maintained by the exertion of œconomical as well as military virtues; and ſhow, that we act moſt ſurely for ourſelves, when we act moſt diſintereſtedly for the public.

The POSSIBILITY of eſtabliſhing woolen, cotton and linen manufactories among us is plain, from the ſucceſs which hath attended ſeveral attempts that have been made for that purpoſe. A great part of the inhabitants of ſeveral of the counties in this province cloath themſelves entirely with woolens and linens manufactured in their own families. Our wool is equal in quality to the wool of ſeveral European countries, and if the ſame pains were beſtowed in the culture of our ſheep which are uſed in England and Spain, I have no doubt but in a few years our wool would equal the wool of Segovia itſelf. Nor will there be a deficiency in the quantity of wool which will be neceſſary for us, if we continue to adhere to the aſſociation of the Congreſs as ſtrictly as we have done. If the city of Philadelphia conſumes 20,000 ſheep leſs this year, than it did laſt, how many 20,000 ſheep may we ſuppoſe will be ſaved throughout the whole province. According to the ordinary encreaſe in the breed of ſheep, and allowing for the additional quantity of wool, which a little care of them will produce, I think I could make it appear that in five years there will be wool enough raiſed in the province to cloath the whole of its inhabitants. Cotton may be imported upon ſuch terms from the Weſt-Indies and ſouthern Colonies, as to enable us to manufacture thickſets, calicoes, &c. at a much cheaper rate than they can be imported from Britain. Conſidering how much theſe ſtuffs are worn by thoſe claſſes of people who conſtitute the majority of the inhabitants of our country, the encouragement of the cotton manufactory appears to be an object of the utmoſt conſequence. I cannot help ſuggeſting in this place, although it may appear foreign to our ſubject, that the trade to the Weſt-Indies and ſouthern Colonies for cotton, would create ſuch a commercial union, with the middle and northern Colonies, as would tend greatly to ſtrengthen that political union which now ſubſiſts between them. I need ſay nothing of the facility of cultivating flax, nor of the excellent quality of the linens which have been already manufactured among us. I ſhall only add, that this manufactory may be carried on without leſſening the value of that trade, which ariſes from the exportation of our flaxſeed to Ireland.

I cannot help laying a good deal of ſtreſs upon the public ſpirit of my countrymen, which removes the ſucceſs of theſe manufactories beyond a bare poſſibility, and ſeems to render it in ſome meaſure certain. The reſolves of the Congreſs have been executed with a fidelity hardly known to laws in any country, and that too without the aſſiſtance of fire and ſword, or even of the civil magiſtrate, and in ſome places in direct oppoſition to them all. It gives me the utmoſt pleaſure to mention here that our province is among the foremoſt of the Colonies in the peaceable mode of oppoſition recommended by the Congreſs. When I reflect upon the temper we have diſcovered in the preſent controverſy, and compare it with the habitual ſpirit of induſtry and œconomy for which we are celebrated among ſtrangers, I know not how to eſtimate our virtue high enough. I am ſure no objects will appear too difficult, no undertakings too extenſive for us in the preſent ſtruggle. The ſum of money which has been already ſubſcribed for the purpoſe of theſe manufactories, is a proof that I am not too ſanguine in my expectations from this province.

I come now to point out the ADVANTAGES we ſhall derive from eſtabliſhing the woolen, cotton and linen manufactories among us. The firſt advantage I ſhall mention is, we ſhall ſave a large ſum of money anually in our province. The province of Pennſylvania is ſuppoſed to contain 400,000 inhabitants. Let us ſuppoſe that only 50,000 of theſe are cloathed with the woolens, cottons and linens of Great-Britain, and that the price of cloathing each of theſe perſons upon an average amounts to 5l. ſterling a year. If this computation be juſt, then the ſum annually ſaved in our province by the manufactory of our clothes will amount to 250,000l. ſterling. Secondly, manufactories next to agriculture are the baſis of the riches of any country. Cardinal Ximenes is remembered at this day in Spain more for the improvement he made in the breed of ſheep, by importing a number of rams from Barbary, than for any other ſervices he rendered his country. King Edward the IV. and Queen Elizabeth of England, are mentioned with gratitude by hiſtorians for paſſing acts of parliament to import a number of ſheep from Spain; and to this mixture of Spaniſh with Engliſh ſheep, the wool of the latter owes its peculiar excellence and reputation all over the world. Louis the XIV. King of France, knew the importance of a woolen manufactory in his kingdom, and in order to encourage it allowed ſeveral excluſive privileges to the company of woolen drapers at Paris. The effects of this royal patronage of this manufactory have been too ſenſibly felt by the Engliſh, who have within theſe thirty or forty years had the mortification of ſeeing the trade up the Levant for woolen cloth in ſome meaſure monopolized by the French. It is remarkable that the riches, and naval power of France have increaſed in proportion to this very lucrative trade. Thirdly, by eſtabliſhing theſe manufactories among us, we ſhall employ a number of poor people in our city, and that too in a way moſt agreeable to themſelves, and leaſt expenſive to the company, for according to our plan, the principal part of the buſineſs will be carried on in their own houſes. Travellers through Spain inform us, that in the town of Segovia, which contains 60,000 inhabitants, there is not a ſingle beggar to be ſeen. This is attributed entirely to the woolen manufactory which is carried on in the moſt extenſive manner in that place, affording conſtant emploment to the whole of their poor people. Fourthly, by eſtabliſhing the woolen, cotton and linen manufactories in this country, we ſhall invite manufacturers from every part of Europe, particularly from Britain and Ireland, to come and ſettle among us. To men who want money to purchaſe lands, and who from habits of manufacturing are diſinclined to agriculture, the proſpect of meeting with employment as ſoon as they arrive in this county, in a way they have been accuſtomed to, would leſſen the difficulties of emigration, and encourage thouſands to come and ſettle in America. If they encreaſed our riches by encreaſing the value of our property, and if they added to our ſtrength by adding to our numbers only, they would be a great acquiſition to us. But there are higher motives which ſhould lead us to invite ſtrangers to ſettle in this country. Poverty, with all its other evils, has joined with it in every part of Europe, all the miſeries of ſlavery. America is now the only aſylum for liberty in the whole world. The preſent conteſt with Great-Britain was perhaps intended by the ſupreme Being, among other wiſe and benevolent purpoſes, to ſhow the world this aſylum, which, from its remote and unconnected ſituation with the reſt of the globe, might have remained a ſecret for ages. By eſtabliſhing manufactories we ſtretch forth a hand from the ark to invite the timid manufacturers to come in. It might afford us pleaſure to trace the new ſources of happineſs which would immediately open to our fellow creatures from their ſettlement in this country. Manufactories have been accuſed of being unfriendly to population. I believe the charge ſhould fall upon ſlavery. By bringing manufacturers into this land of liberty and plenty, we recover them from the torpid ſtate in which they exiſted in their own country, and place them in circumſtances which enable them to become huſbands and fathers, and thus we add to the general tide of human happineſs. Fifthly, the eſtabliſhment of manufactories in this country, by leſſening our imports from Great-Britain, will deprive European luxuries and vice of thoſe vehicles in which they have been tranſported to America. The wiſdom of the Congreſs cannot be too much admired in putting a check to them both. They have in effect ſaid to them, "Thus far ſhall ye go, and no further." Sixthly, by eſtabliſhing manufactories among us, we erect an additional barrier againſt the encroachments of tyranny. A people who are entirely dependant upon foreigners for food or clothes, muſt always be ſubject to them. I need not detain you in ſetting forth the miſery of holding property, liberty and life upon the precarious will of our fellow ſubjects in Britain. I beg leave to add a thought in this place which has been but little attended to by the writers upon this ſubject, and that is, that poverty, confinement and death are trifling evils, when compared with that total depravity of heart which is connected with ſlavery. By becoming ſlaves we ſhall loſe every principle of virtue. We ſhall tranſfer unlimited obedience from our Maker to a corrupted majority in the Britiſh Houſe of Commons, and ſhall eſteem their crimes, the certificates of their divine commiſſion to govern us. We ſhall ceaſe to look with horror upon the proſtitution of our wives and daughters to thoſe civil and military harpies who now hover around the liberties of our country. We ſhall cheerfully lay them both at their feet. We ſhall hug our chains. We ſhall ceaſe to be men. We ſhall be ſlaves.

I ſhall now conſider the objections which have been made to the eſtabliſhment of manufactories in this country.

The firſt, and moſt common objection to manufactories in this country is, that they will draw off our attention from agriculture. This objection derives great weight from being made originally by the Duke of Sully, againſt the eſtabliſhment of manufactories in France. But the hiſtory of that country ſhows us, that it is more founded in ſpeculation than fact. France has become opulent and powerful in proportion as manufactories have flouriſhed in her, and if agriculture has not kept pace with her manufactories, it is owing entirely to that ill-judged policy which forbad the exportation of grain. I believe it will be found upon enquiry that a greater number of hands have been taken from the plough and employed in importing, retailing and tranſporting Britiſh woolens, cottons and linens, than would be ſufficient to manufacture as much of them as would clothe all the inhabitants of the province. There is an endleſs variety in the geniuſes of men, and it would be to preclude the exertion of the faculties of the mind, to confine them entirely to the

ſimple arts of agriculture. Beſides, if theſe manufactories were conducted as they ought to be, two thirds of the labour of them will be carried on by thoſe members of ſociety who cannot be employed in agriculture, namely by women and children.

A ſecond objection is, that we cannot manufacture cloths ſo cheap here, as they can be imported from Britain. It has been the misfortune of moſt of the manufactories which have been ſet up in this country to afford labour to journeymen only for ſix or nine months in the year, by which means their wages have neceſſarily been ſo high as to ſupport them in the intervals of their labour. It will be found upon enquiry that thoſe manufactories which occupy journeymen the whole year, are carried on at as cheap a rate as they are in Britain. The expence of manufacturing cloaths will be leſſened from the great ſhare women and children will have in them; and I have the pleaſure of informing you that the machine lately brought into this city for leſſening the expence of time and hands in ſpinning, is likely to meet with encouragement from the legiſlature of this province. In a word, the experiments which have been already made among us, convince us that woolens and linens of all kinds may be made and bought as cheap as thoſe imported from Britain, and I believe every one who has tried the former, will acknowledge that they wear twice as well as the latter.

A third objection to manufactories is, that they deſtroy health, and are hurtful to population. The ſame may be ſaid of navigation and many other arts which are eſſential to the happineſs and glory of a ſtate. I believe that many of the diſeaſes to which the manufacturers in Britain are ſubject are brought on, not ſo much by the nature of their employment, but by their own unwholeſome diet, damp houſes, and other bad accommodations, each of which may be prevented in America.

A fourth objection to eſtabliſhing manufactories in this country is a political one. The liberties of America have been twice, and we hope will be a third time preſerved by a non-importation of Britiſh manufactures. By manufacturing our own cloths we deprive ourſelves of the only weapon by which we can hereafter effectually oppoſe Great-Britain. Before we anſwer this objection it becomes us to acknowledge the obligations we owe to our merchants for conſenting ſo chearfully to a ſuſpenſion of their trade with Britain. From the benefits we have derived from their virtue, it would be unjuſt to inſinuate that ever there will be the leaſt danger of truſting the defence of our liberties to them; but I would wiſh to guard againſt placing one body of men only upon that forlorn hope, to which a non-importation agreement muſt always expoſe them. For this purpoſe I would fill their ſtores with the manufactures of American looms, and thus eſtabliſh their trade upon a foundation that cannot be ſhaken. Here then we derive an anſwer to the laſt objection that was mentioned, for in proportion as manufactures flouriſh in America, they muſt decline in Britain, and it is well known that nothing but her manufactories have rendered her formidable in all our conteſts with her. Theſe are the foundations of all her riches and power. Theſe have made her merchants nobles, and her nobles princes. Theſe carried her ſo triumphantly through the late expenſive war, and theſe are the ſupport of a power more dangerous to the liberties of America than her fleets and armies, I mean the power of corruption—I am not one of thoſe vindictive patriots who exult in the proſpect of the decay of the manufactories of Britain. I can forgive her late attempts to enſlave us, in the memory of our once mutual freedom and happineſs. And ſhould her liberty—her arts—her fleets and armies and her empire ever be interred in Britain, I hope they will all riſe in Britiſh garments, only in America.

FRANCE.

MARSEILLES, May 4. The laſt letters from Algiers adviſe, that the Dey had received intelligence by an expreſs who arrived on board of a fiſhing boat, that he ought to be on his guard, and prepare to defend himſelf, as the king of Spain had fitted out a ſtrong fleet of ſhips of war, and a number of tranſports; that it was moreover ſaid, that the conditions of the peace between the Emperor of Morocco and his Catholic Majeſty were, that the firſt ſhould make war on the Algerines by land, whilſt Spain ſhould attack them by ſea. Theſe letters add, that the Dey could not forbear laughing when he read the letter of advice brought by the above mentioned expreſs; but that he anſwered with great compoſure, that he was prepared at all events, and was very impatient to ſee the Spaniſh fleet; and that as to the report reſpecting the hoſtile intentions of the Emperor of Morocco, he had a formidable army on the frontiers, commanded by the Bey of the Weſt, ſufficient not only to make head againſt him, but even to conquer half his empire.

LONDON, May 25.

Preſs warrants were on Saturday ſent to the out ports, for impreſſing ſeamen into his Majeſty's ſervice.

They write from Berlin, that the King of Pruſſia has compleated all his regiments, under pretence of a general review, and that they conſiſt of 150,000 choice troops.

A tanner, who lives within twenty miles of Hutchin Back-ſtreet, near Baldock, returning late from his work, found his wife was gone to bed, but had forgot to lock the door. The huſband blundering in the dark, juſt gave time to another who had ſupplied his place to get under the bed. The huſband had put off his cloaths, and was getting alſo into bed, when his wife complained ſhe was exceedingly ill, and ſhould be glad of ſome anniſeed-water, but feared the public houſes were all ſhut up, except the Sun-Inn, which was at the greateſt diſtance. The honeſt man put on his cloaths, and went to the Sun, where, putting his hand into his pocket for a ſhilling to pay for the water, the waiter returned it him, telling him he could not change his guinea. The man, amazed to hear mention of a guinea (as knowing he had but a few ſhillings) haſtily put his hand again into his pocket, and pulled out nine more, with a ten pound bank note, and on further examination found he had got a new pair of breeches and a fine watch. Comprehending the whole then in an inſtant, he obſerved, with the coolneſs of a philoſopher, that the affair was over before this, and what was done could not be undone; as his wife, therefore, had been ſo induſtrious in putting him into ſo much ready money, he would have a bottle of wine firſt, and then carry her the anniſeed-water. The tanner had the breeches cried on Tueſday in the open market, but has not yet found an owner.

June 3. So great is the perturbation of the miniſtry, at the news they have received from Boſton, that after an extraordinary council held at Lord Gower's, which did not break up till one o'clock in the morning, on Wedneſday laſt, meſſengers were diſpatched to the Principals for a freſh council to meet at the Queen's palace by three in the morning, which ſat till nine.

Never were debates in the cabinet council ſo high as at preſent; Lord North is for conciliation at all events with the colonies; Mr. Rigby inſiſts upon coercive meaſures.

By the new arrangement, ſettled at the laſt extraordinary council, General Gage is to be re-inforced with 7,500 men, with poſitive orders to quit Boſton: A camp is to be formed near Cork, in Ireland, and another upon Blackheath; this does not look as if the miniſtry put much truſt in Spaniſh aſſurances.

By letters lately received from Boſton we learn, that there no leſs than three German Princes upon their travels incog. in New-England! This looks not a little ſuſpicious; certain it is, there is not a court in Germany, that would not ſend their beſt generals to the aſſiſtance of the Americans.

Orders are ſent to all the ports of England, Scotland, and Ireland, to make the utmoſt expedition in fitting out the royal navy, as it is looked upon that a war is inevitable.

A courier is ſet out for Gibraltar under the moſt preſſing inſtances, to make all poſſible expedition: inſomuch that he is promiſed 500 guineas reward, if he arrives there in ſeven days, which we ſhould ſuppoſe impoſſible; and 200 guineas if he gets there in nine days.

WORCESTER, Auguſt 2.

WE are informed that laſt week a detachment of 300 men from our army, under the command of Major Tupper, were ſent to light-houſe iſland, on information being given that the King's troops were rebuilding it; the enemy perceiving our people coming, prepared to receive them, our troops were ordered not to fire until they landed, which they did and went boldly up to the enemy, killed 10 or 12 on the ſpot, among whom was the commanding officer, and took the remainder about 35 in number, demoliſhed the enemy's works, and were preparing to embark, but the tide leaving them they were obliged to tarry till its return; mean while a large number of boats from the men of war came up in order to reinforce the enemy on the iſland, and a ſmart firing from both parties commenced: our troops however got ſafe back with their priſoners, with the loſs of one man killed, and two or three wounded.

NEW-YORK, Auguſt 10.

LAST tueſday the firſt diviſion of Col. M'Dougall's battalion of provincial troops ſailed, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Ritzema, to join Major-General Schuyler at Ticonderoga: they will ſoon be followed by the ſecond, under Major Zodwitz; and the Colonel is preparing immediately to follow with the third and laſt diviſion.

Laſt Sunday an expreſs arrived from Suffolk County, on Long-Iſland, with information that a number of tranſports, with a conſiderable body of troops from Boſton, under convoy of five ſhips of war, had appeared off Montock point; that an officer landed, and requeſted to purchaſe a number of cattle and ſheep, which was refuſed. The particulars of the proceedings in conſequence of this demand muſt be deferred, till more authentic accounts are received. We hear that the officers of the county militia marched a large body of men to the place of their landing; and on Tueſday laſt Major-General Worſter with the Connecticut forces, left their encampment at Harlaem, croſſed the eaſt river at Hoorn's Hook, and marched with expedition to act in concert with the militia.

By a return expreſs who left the camp at Cambridge, laſt Friday evening, we are informed that ſix ſail of tranſports ſailed from Boſton, under convoy of a man of war, ſome time ago, for the eaſtward of Caſco-Bay, for forage; that they landed a number of men for the purpoſe:—That while the men from the ſhips were landed, a number of men from the ſhore poſſeſſed themſelves of five of the ſhips, made the ſeamen and ſoldiers priſoners, and ſecured the ſhips out of the reach of the man of war.

Laſt night an expreſs arrived from Cambridge, which, it is ſaid, bring advice that General Pribble had brought an account that 6 tranſports employed at Caſco-Bay to procure forage and proviſions for General Gage's army, had been ſurpriſed by 300 of the provincials in whale-boats; 5 out of 6 of them were taken and ſecured in ſhoal water. Moſt of the men belonging to the tranſports were foraging aſhore when the attack was made. We are alſo told, that the rifle-men had in one day killed 10 of a reconnoitering party; and it is added likewiſe, that they have killed 3 field officers. A centry was killed at 250 yards diſtance.

By accounts received (via Antigua) we are informed that the diſpatches with Gen. Gage's account of the affair at Lexington, arrived in England on the 13th of June, 17 days after thoſe ſent from the inhabitants of Maſſachuſetts by Capt. Darby. And that the great Spaniſh armament was met going to Algiers. The vengeance of that nation ſeems to be immediately levelled againſt their old enemies the Mahometans, and ſo formidable is their force in this expedition, that it is generally imagined his Catholic Majeſty aims at the entire conqueſt of that country, and annexing it to the Spaniſh realm. It is the fineſt corn country upon the earth, was the grand granary of ancient Rome, and is much healthier than any of the Spaniſh dominions.

On Tueſday a ſecond expreſs arrived in town from Long-Iſland, and informs us that 13 men of war and tranſports were lying at anchor in Oyſter Pond Bay, near Gardiner's iſland, but had not landed any of their men at 4 o'clock on Monday afternoon, when the expreſs came away.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 10.

Extract of a letter from the Camp, July 28.

"Within a day or two we have had five deſerters from the advanced poſts of the enemy; two of them are ſenſible honeſt looking fellows; one that came in this mornig particularly ſo——They have brought a return of the enemy killed and wounded, amounting to 1052: Moſt of the wounded are dead or in a dangerous way: They have had no freſh proviſions ſince the affair of Noddle's-Iſland; and are not like to have any without fighting for it. One of the deſerters went off laſt night, with leave to Philadelphia; he is a grenadier of the Royal Iriſh. The deſerters ſay, that yeſterday morning Gen. Gage [illegible] in the orders of the day, his command [illegible] to Gen. Howe, and now acts only as [illegible] That he is lampooned and deſpiſed by [illegible] hole army—That Howe is much cenſured for his mode of attack on our lines laſt month—— That their artillery was wretchedly ſerved; and what is more ſtrange, that all their ſpare cartridges which they brought out, were twelve pounders, and they took out only nine pounders cannon, ſo that when our people were obliged to quit their lines the enemy had not one round of artillery.—That young Richardſon was the firſt perſon who mounted our parapet; you know him well, he is of the 18th or Royal Iriſh; he is dangerouſly wounded.——That their number of effective men, is 4000 in Boſton and 2200 on Bunker's-Hill.—That they deſpair of forcing our lines, but talk of getting round us if they can.—That 8 ſail of tranſports and one frigate are gone to Fiſher's-Iſland and other places in the ſound, marauding with 100 men.—That they have erected a large bomb battery on Bunker's-Hill, and amongſt others two 18 inch French mortars. That our morning gun, yeſterday threw an 18 pound ſhot into their incampment on the top of Bunker's-Hill.—That the grenadiers of the Royal Welſh Fuzileers amounted to 40 at the attack laſt month, and are now reduced to 8 men.—That the 52d regiment had 22 grenadiers killed out of 39.—That the inhabitants of Boſton are ill-uſed and miſerably fed: That they will be ſoon releaſed, becauſe proviſions begin to be ſcarce.—That the army begin to clamour for their pay: There is no caſh; and bills will not ſell under 50 per-cent. diſcount. The reſolution of the Congreſs againſt government bills was wiſe, and has diſtreſſed the enemy exceedingly. The Reading company of rifle-men came in on Tueſday; the reſt are hourly expected and much wanted. We have frequently thrown into their lines, on the wings of the wind at night, hand bills: and propoſe to ſend in a few to-night: Theſe bills are blown into their camp, and get into the hands of their ſoldiers without the officers being able to prevent it. Major Bruce complained, at an interview, the other day, of ſuch uſage—We retorted his decoying our centries from their poſts; two raſcals having left us a day or two before by his or ſome other officers means.

"We expect they will begin to bombard us in a day or two; they cannot hurt but benefit us; they will by ſuch means harden our men, and diſcourage their own: This we have experienced by their bombarding of Roxbury."

Extract of a letter from Cambridge, July 31.

"Laſt Friday we were informed by our out centries at the foot of Bunker's-Hill, that the enemy had cut down ſeveral large trees, and were buſy all night in throwing up a line and abbates in front of it.—In the evening orders were given to the York-county rifle-company, to march down to our advanced poſt on Charleſtown neck, to endeavour to ſurround the enemy's advanced guard, and to bring off ſome priſoners; from whom we expected to learn the enemy's deſign of throwing up the abbates on the neck. The rifle-company divided and executed their plan in the following manner: Capt. Dowdle with 39 men filed off to the right of Bunker's-Hill, and creeping on their hands and knees, got into the rear of the enemies centries, without being diſcovered----The other diviſion of 40 men under Lieut. Miller, were equally ſucceſsful in getting behind the centries on the left, and were within a few yards of joining the diviſion on the right, when a party of regulars came down the hill to relieve their guard, croſſed our rifle-men under Capt. Dowdle, as they were lying on the ground in an Indian file. The regulars were within 20 yards of our rifle-men before they ſaw them, and immediately fired. The rifle-men returned the ſalute; killed ſeveral, and brought off two priſoners and their muſquets, with the loſs of Corporal Crouſe, who is ſuppoſed to be killed as he has not been heard of ſince the affair.

"In return for this, the enemy alarmed us laſt night in their turn. At one o'clock this morning a heavy firing of ſmall arms and cannon occaſioned our drums to beat to arms. The army was immediately ordered under arms to their poſts.---The firing continued in three different quarters; Roxbury, Sewel's point at the mouth of Cambridge-River, and at the advanced poſts at Charleſtown-neck:

Some hours elapſed before we knew the deſign of the enemy, which was this:---We had ſurrounded ſome of their out guards the night before, which induced them to ſerve our centries in the ſame manner. They ſent two flat-bottomed boats to Sewel's point, to attack our redoubt there. Sallied out at Roxbury and ſet fire to the George Tavern, our advanced guard-houſe.—Our people attacked, beat them in, and took one priſoner, who is expected here every minute. The flat-bottomed boats after a uſeleſs fire of many hours returned. The picquet guard of the enemy on Charleſtown-neck, attacked and drove in our advanced guard of 60 men, who being reinforced by General Lee's order, recovered their ground and beat off the enemy, killed ſeveral, and brought off 7 muſkets, without loſing a man, although our men engaged them under their guns within point blank ſhot of their lines.—We are juſt informed that 250 of the Marblehead ſailors have formed on Plowed-Hill, and have drove in all the out guards of the enemy.—The enemy do not appear to be very fond of coming out. We ſhall harraſs them continually, and for this reaſon want the aid of the rifle-men, as only one company is yet come in."

NORFOLK, AUGUST 30, 1775.

[The following letters have lately paſſed between the Worſhipful the Mayor, and the Captain of the Mercury Man of War.]

His Majeſty's ſhip Mercury, at Norfolk, Auguſt 12, 1775.

SIR,

I AM juſt now informed by his Excellency Lord Dunmore, that Mr. Andrew Sprowle has received a ſummons to attend a committee in Norfolk, on Thurſday next. The accuſations alledged againſt him are of a moſt extraordinary nature. In the ſummons he is charged with having harboured his Majeſty's troops in the ſtores at Goſport. I am not ſurpriſed that a ſummons grounded upon ſuch accuſations ſhould be alarming to Mr. Sprowle; particularly after the cruel and oppreſſive treatment Mr. Schaw lately received from a mob in Norfolk. As I do moſt earneſtly wiſh, and ſhall upon all occaſions endeavor to promote the public peace of this province, I think it neceſſary to explain to you, as chief magiſtrate of the town of Norfolk, the conduct I mean to purſue, in hope of preſerving that peace and obedience to the laws, ſo ardently to be wiſhed for by all loyal ſubjects and good citizens. I am ſent hither to be the guardian of a Britiſh colony; to protect his Majeſty's Governor, and all the loyal ſubjects in the province of Virginia. This is my duty, and ſhould wiſh it to be known that my duty and inclination go hand in hand. The ſame principles, which have induced me not to harbour the ſlaves of any individual in this province, will operate with me to protect the property of all loyal ſubjects. As I have before obſerved, that I ſhall endeavor to promote the public peace of this province, it is hardly neceſſary to mention that I ſhall not remain an idle ſpectator, ſhould any violence be offered to the perſons or property of any of his Majeſty's ſubjects. I have reaſon to apprehend that many gentlemen in this province, from their connections with government, or their readineſs to ſupply his Majeſty's ſhips or ſervants with proviſions, ſtores, &c. are held up as objects inimical to the liberties of America, and unjuſtly cenſured for their loyal conduct. Men under theſe circumſtances are more particularly entitled to my protection. I have not the leaſt doubt, from your deſire and readineſs upon a former occaſion to preſerve harmony in the town of Norfolk, but you will heartily concur with me in my endeavors to ſuppreſs all party jealouſies and animoſities, ſo highly injurious to the welfare of a country. More effectually to perform my part, I ſhall the firſt opportunity, place his Majeſty's ſhip under my command abreaſt of the town; and I muſt aſſure you, that notwithſtanding I ſhall feel the utmoſt pain and reluctance, in being compelled to uſe violent meaſures to preſerve the perſons and properties of his Majeſty's ſubjects, yet I moſt aſſuredly ſhall, if it becomes neceſſary, uſe the moſt coercive meaſures in my power, to ſuppreſs all unlawful combinations and perſecutions within the province of Virginia.

I am, Sir,
Your moſt obedient
humble ſervant,
JOHN MACARTNEY.

To Paul Loyall Eſq; mayor of the town of Norfolk, Virginia.

SIR,

I juſt now received yours of yeſterday's date, by Mr. Swan. The ſummons you mention, I believe did not go from a committee of this borough. I will make the neceſſary enquiry, and will anſwer your letter tomorrow; in the interim, I am,

Sir,
Your moſt obedient ſervant,
PAUL LOYALL.

To John Macartney, Eſq; Commander of His Majeſty's ſhip, MERCURY.

SIR, Norfolk, Auguſt 14, 1775.

SINCE writing you yeſterday, I find upon enquiry, that the ſummons referred to in your letter, was ſent from a number of Gentlemen who are freeholders, and compoſe the Committee of the county of Norfolk, and are therefore entirely without the juriſdiction of the magiſtrates of this corporation. I can only promiſe, that as the place of meeting for the purpoſe of conſidering Mr. Sprowle's conduct, is ſaid to be within the limits of this borough, I will take proper care, that he ſhall not be moleſted or injured in his perſon by any riot or mob, if he ſhall think fit to attend on the Committee. With reſpect to the treatment that Mr. Schaw received, I was a ſtranger to it, till the diſturbance was over; but can aſſure you that as ſoon as he put himſelf under the protection of a magiſtrate, he was ſecured from danger. The conduct, which you are pleaſed to explain to me, as chief magiſtrate of this borough, as your intention to purſue in preſerving peace and obedience to the laws, in the ſtation aſſigned you by his Majeſty, muſt be commended by every good man: by that care in your departmeut, particularly in diſcouraging the elopement of ſlaves, which of late it is notorious has frequently happened, from the countenance ſhewn them by ſome enemies to this colony as well as to the Britiſh conſtitution, much miſchief and confuſion may be prevented. Your ſuggeſtion that gentlemen are in danger by ſupplying his Majeſty's ſhips, &c. in this colony with proviſions, I cannot account for. I am very ſure the contractors for the Navy in this town are under no ſuch apprehenſion of danger, as they have been aſſured to the contrary in the moſt explicit manner. I hope ſuſpicions of this nature prejudicial to the loyalty of a number of inhabitants, who are as much attached to the juſt prerogative of their Sovereign, as any ſubjects in the empire, may not be haſtily taken up and adopted without full and ſatisfactory proof. I am obliged by your favorable opinion of my readineſs to concur in the ſuppreſſion of all animoſities: It has hitherto been, and I truſt ever will be, the tenor of my conduct. I have always found the authority of the magiſtracy ſufficiently competent for the maintenance of government and good order; and while I thank you for your chearful offers of aſſiſtance for that laudable purpoſe, yet I preſume your intention is only to act within the line of your department. I confeſs I feel myſelf ſomewhat aſtoniſhed at the laſt paragraph of your letter, which ſeems to me to imply a threatning, that would eventually prove deſtructive to the perſons and properties of his Majeſty's ſubjects. A perſonal inſult offered to an individual, by the ill guided zeal of a number of thoughtleſs youth, can never juſtify a hint of this nature. At any rate it is to be preſumed, that gentlemen in military departments, will not intermeddle in that capacity, unleſs particularly required by the civil authority; as I am determined, whenever I find any unlawful combinations or perſecutions to prevail within the ſphere of my juriſdiction, to take every legal method to ſuppreſs them. I have nothing further to add, but the ſtrongeſt aſſurances of the earneſt deſire of the inhabitants of this borough, to live in the moſt perfect harmony with the gentlemen of the Navy, and hope that no little incident may interrupt it.

I am, Sir,
Your moſt obedient humble ſervant.
PAUL LOYALL.

To John Macartney, Eſq; Commander of His Majeſty's ſhip MERCURY.

His Majeſty's ſhip Mercury, at Norfolk Auguſt 15, 1775.

SIR,

I WAS favored with your letter of yeſterday's date, and it gives me much real ſatisfaction to find, that the inhabitants of Norfolk are ſo earneſtly deſirous of living in harmony with his Majeſty's ſervants. You are pleaſed to aſſure me that no violence or inſult ſhall be offered to the perſon of Mr. Sprowle, and upon the faith of your letter I have requeſted of him to attend the Committee tomorrow. For ſome days paſt I have been much indiſpoſed, but if I find myſelf well enough tomorrow, I mean to accompany Mr. Sprowle to the Committee, and will call upon you about 11 o'clock tomorrow morning. I muſt beg that you will go along with us. You, I am ſure, will agree with me that the ſummons ſent Mr. Sprowle (a copy of which I have encloſed you) muſt be truly alarming to all good citizens. When any ſet of gentlemen aſſume to themſelves the power of arraigning an individual for furniſhing barracks for his Majeſty's troops, and pretend to cenſure a conduct, which I muſt think highly laudable, it gives me but too much reaſon to apprehend, that the authority of the civil magiſtracy is not competent for the ſupport of government and good order.

I am, Sir,
Your moſt obedient humble ſervant.
JOHN MACARTNEY.

To Paul Loyall Eſq; Mayor of the town of Norfolk, Virginia.

SIR, Norfolk, Auguſt 26, 1775.

WHEN I had the pleaſure of ſeeing you laſt, you mentioned having ſome letters that had paſſed between you and me publiſhed, which I gave you to underſtand might be done, ſince which, as thoſe letters concerned the public, I have thought proper to lay them before the Common Hall of this borough. The Hall has made ſome reſolves on them, a copy of which I am directed to incloſe you. My reaſon for not publiſhing the letters in this week's paper is, that as they are of a threatening nature, they might perhaps give the people of this colony great uneaſineſs: to prevent which, I think their cannot be too much precaution uſed, as I am willing to believe your intentions are only to act within your own ſphere, and not to intermeddle with the internal policy of this corporation. If you ſtill think proper to have the letters publiſhed, and will incloſe them to me, I ſhall take particular care to have them put into the next Gazette. My family joins in beſt compliments, hoping you have recovered your health. I am, Sir,

your moſt obedient, humble Servant,
PAUL LOYALL.

To John Macartney, Eſq; Commander of his Majeſty's ſhip MERCURY.

[Reſolves of the Common-hall, above referred to.]

Norfolk borough, ſs.

At a Common Hall, ſummoned and held, Auguſt 21, 1775.

SUNDRY Letters from John Macartney, Eſq; Commander of his Majeſty's ſhip Mercury, to Paul Loyal Eſq; Mayor, were laid before the Hall, and the Hall taking the ſame into their ſerious conſideration, and being greatly ſurpriſed at the contents thereof, it was thereupon

RESOLVED, that the letters from Captain Macartney to the worſhipful the Mayor, were evidently intended to alarm and intimidate the inhabitants of this borough, were diſreſpectful to the chief magiſtrate of this corporation, are an officious intermeddling in the civil government of the town, and contain an implied threatening which the Hall conceive, to be unjuſtifiable premature and indecent—Unjuſtifiable, inaſmuch as no reaſon can be deduced from fact or any authority be derived from law, to impower Capt. Macartney, unſolicited by the magiſtracy, to interfere in matters within their juriſdiction alone, and much leſs to hold up to them the idea of violence and compulſion, in a tranſaction ſo entirely without the line of his department—Premature, as his conduct in this inſtance, originates from ill-grounded ſuppoſitions and miſtaken apprehenſions, and without any ſanction from facts to ſupport them—Indecent, becauſe it implicitly charges the magiſtracy with a wilful remiſſneſs in the exerciſe of the powers legally veſted in them;—becauſe the menace is as particularly pointed againſt them, as if they were the abettors of riot and perſecution;—becauſe it operates towards the deſtruction of the perſons and properties of a number of his Majeſty's ſubjects, chiefly on account of ſome accidental inſults, alledged to have been offered by a few incautious youth, to an individual;—becauſe ſo little regard is ſhewn to the underſtandings and feelings of people, as, at the ſame moment in which this haughty declaration ſo big with ruin, is denounced, it is pretended that the execution of it, is to preſerve the perſons and properties of his Majeſty's ſubjects; as if the utter deſtruction of their lives and eſtates, could ever be deemed a preſervation of their perſons and properties.

RESOLVED, that the military power, agreeably to the Britiſh conſtitution, is and ought to be under the controul of the civil; and notwithſtanding the utterly defenceleſs ſtate of the town, the body corporate of this borough will never tamely ſubmit to the invaſion of their privileges, by the dangerous and untimely interpoſition of military force.

RESOLVED, that this corporation will continue ſtedfaſtly to adhere to thoſe ſubſtantial principles of good government, which ought to actuate the minds of all his Majeſty's faithful ſubjects, and that they embrace this opportunity to make this public and ſolemn declaration, that notwithſtanding their expoſed and defenceleſs ſituation which cannot be remedied, unbiaſſed with fear, unappalled at the threats of unlawful power, they will never deſert the righteous cauſe of their country, plunged as it is into dreadful and unexpected calamities.

ORDERED, that a copy of this reſolution be, by the Mayor, tranſmitted to John Macartney, Etq; Commander of his Majeſty's ſhip Mercury. JOHN BOUSH, T. C.

His Majeſty's ſhip Mercury at Norfolk, Auguſt 28, 1775.

SIR,

I AM much obliged for your polite favour, which incloſed ſome ſtrictures by the corporation of Norfolk, upon my firſt letter to you. I muſt beg you will be pleaſed to publiſh the letters which have paſſed between us in the Virginia News paper, that a candid public may judge of the motives which actuate my conduct.

When I firſt wrote to you, it was not my intention to draw on a political diſcuſion with the inhabitants of Norfolk, or to aſcertain in particular caſes the limits of the civil or military juriſdictions. I was deſirous that his Majeſty's ſubjects ſhould know I ardently wiſhed the peace of this province, to promote which, I ſhall ſtrictly adhere to the tenor of my firſt letter. I beg my reſpectful compliments to all your family, and have the honour to remain, Sir, your moſt obedient

humble Servant,
JOHN MACARTNEY.

To Paul Loyal, Eſq; Mayor of the town of Norfolk, Virginia.

THE honorable the Convention, which broke up laſt Saturday, paſſed an ordinance for raiſing two regiments. The private men are to be paid ſixteen pence a day, with liberty of leaving the ſervice at the expiration of one year.

L——d D———e has lately made ſeizure of another veſſel belonging to Meſſrs. Eilbeck, Roſs and Co. for Government ſervice forſooth!

The goods imported in the ſnow Unicorn, ſeized by L——d D———e as above-mentioned, were ordered by the Norfolk borough Committee to be immediately returned in the ſame veſſel; but his L———p has taken care to prevent that, by laying his hands upon the goods and converting them to his own uſe, and the veſſel, we hear, is intended for St. Auguſtine to bring the remainder of the 14th regiment.

It appearing that the above goods imported in the Unicorn, had been countermanded by Meſſrs. Eilbeck, Roſs and Co the Committee of this borough have acquitted them in this inſtance of any breach of the Aſſociation.

We are aſſured from good authority, that General Howe is appointed from home to the command of the troops at Boſton; ſuppoſed to be at the requeſt of General Gage.

General Waſhington's army is ſaid to conſiſt of 22,000 men, and his lines to extend 14 miles.

A correſpondent writes, that a certain ſloop of war, not 100 miles diſtant, was lately kept in conſtant alarm a whole night, with her matches burning, tompkins out, guns loaded with grape ſhot, and all hands at their quarters, till day light diſcovered the formidable enemy which had cauſed ſuch terrible apprehenſions, to be only one of the neighbours with his negroes catching Mullets! A certain Governor, it is ſaid, was in all haſte ſent for, to aſſiſt with his ſage advice at the council of war that was held on this mighty occaſion.

CONNOLY, who ſome weeks ago, as was mentioned in this paper, came down to L——d D———e, ſailed for Boſton laſt Sunday, in one of the tenders that have gone expreſs from hence.

This day arrived from London the famous Major ROGERS formerly of the Rangers.

The Committee of deputies for the diſtrict of Princeſs Anne, Norfolk county and borough, Nanſemond and Iſle of Wight, are requeſted by the chairman of the Princeſs Anne Committee, to meet at the houſe of Mrs. Patterſon in Portſmouth, preciſely at 10 o'clock, in the forenoon on Monday the 11th of September next, on buſineſs of great importance.

NORFOLK BOROUGH, in COMMITTEE, Auguſt 23, 1775.

Preſent, Mr. Deputy Chairman and 19 Members.

RESOLVED, that WALTER CHAMBRE of Whitehaven, is an enemy to American liberty, and is guilty of an attempt to break the aſſociation by ſhipping goods for this place in direct oppoſition to the non-importation agreement.

ORDERED that this cenſure be publiſhed to the world, that all perſons may withhold any further commercial connexion with the ſaid CHAMBRE.

By order of the Committee,
WILLIAM DAVIES, ſecretary.

Princeſs Anne, July 13, 1775.

WHEREAS a falſe and malicious report has been propagated, purpoſely to injure my character both in Princeſs Anne county and the town of Norfolk, in order to draw upon me the cenſure and indignation of the public, that I keep by me large quantities of ammunition, fire arms, &c. with intention to oppoſe the meaſures now adopted in the juſt defence of our liberties. Nothing can be more falſe than this, or ought to gain leſs credit, when rightly conſidered how vain my weak efforts would be, in oppoſition to the power of my united country. I can aſſure the public that my intention is and always ſhall be with general voice for Liberty, as I am determined to the utmoſt of my power ever to defend it. It is not my deſire to trouble the public with an account of old womens tales and fables; but to convince them that at any time when called upon I am ready to ſatisfy them in every particular, reſpecting my conduct ſo unjuſtly cenſured. I have lately ſuffered in my property on the account of ſome falſe and private accuſations; therefore, conſidering the deceptions my ſuperiors and equals are liable to, I have taken this method to elude their wicked practices, heartily wiſhing that every pretender to Liberty may be as true to the cauſe of freedom, as their moſt humble ſervant

JOSHUA WHITEHURST.

Lancaſter County, Indian Creek, Aug. 1, 1775.

STOLEN from the ſubſcriber's Landing on Wedneſday the 26th of July, a PETTIAUGER, built out of pine, between 30 or 32 feet in length and 3 or 4 feet in breadth, with eight ſeats made out of pine plank, two of which are new; the lower part of her gunwales made of oak, and the top pine; a moulding, or bend made of pine, on both ſides. She has been lately coated with turpentine both inſide and out. Her gunwale and bends painted black, and between the two ſhe is painted white, with a black vine round her quarters. Two hearts (either white or black) painted on her ſtern, which are ſcarce perceivable. Her thowl blocks are made of oak, have been much wore and are now faced with the ſame ſort of wood, which is almoſt wore through. She is well timber'd and has three iron clamps in her head, one in her ſtern and two in her bottom which are dove-tail'd in, over a crack on the inſide. Her ſtern is faced with iron and an iron thimble nail'd on her head to fix a painter in. She rows with four oars, two of which were carried with her, alſo a new rudder with iron pintles on it. Her ſtern piece is made of oak. I have ſome reaſons to believe ſhe was carried off by a negro man belonging to Mr. WILLIAM NUTE of Northumberland county, as he was ſeen on my plantation the day I loſt her and is now run away. It is more than probable he will carry her to Norfolk where (from a report that has lately prevailed) he may expect to be harboured and protected. Whoever ſecures the PETTIAUGER ſo that I get her again, ſhall receive FORTY SHILLINGS beſides what the law allows, and on conviction of the thief (if a white man) FIVE POUNDS. THOS. PINCHARD.

NORFOLK, Auguſt 21, 1775.

ALL perſons indebted to the eſtate of MASON MILLER, deceaſed, are deſired to make immediate payment, and thoſe who have any demands, to bring in their accounts properly proved to

THOMAS MATTHEWS, Executor.

NORFOLK, Auguſt 22, 1775.

I INTEND for England ſoon

SAMUEL LONG.

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TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND,

From the DELEGATES appointed by the united colonies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island and Providence plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pensylvania, the lower counties on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina and South-Carolina, in General Congress at PHILADELPHIA, the 12th of May, 1775.

FRIENDS, and FELLOW-SUBJECTS,

AS the important contest into which we have been driven is now become interesting to every European state, and particularly affects the members of the British empire, we think it our duty to address you on the subject. We are desirous, as is natural to injured innocence, of possessing the good opinion of the virtuous and humane. We are peculiarly desirous of furnishing you with a true state of our motives and objects; the better to enable you to judge of our conduct with accuracy, and determine the merits of the controversy with impartiality and precision.

However incredible it may appear, that, at this enlightened period, the leaders of a nation, which in every age has sacrificed hetacombs of her bravest patriots on the altar of liberty, should presume gravely to assert, and by force of arms attempt to establish, an arbitrary sway over the lives, liberties and property of their fellow subjects in America; it is, nevertheless, a most deplorable and indisputable truth.

These colonies have, from the time of their first settlement, for near two centuries, peaceably enjoyed those very rights of which the ministry have for ten years past endeavoured, by fraud and by violence, to deprive them. At the conclusion of the last war the genius of England, and the spirit of wisdom, as if offended at the ungrateful treatment of their sons, withdrew from the British counsels, and left that nation a prey to a race of ministers, with whom ancient English honesty and benevolence disdained to dwell. From that period, jealousy, discontent, oppression and discord, have raged among his Majesty's subjects, and filled every part of his dominions with distress and complaint.

Not content with our purchasing of Britain, at her own price, clothing, and a thousand other articles used by near three millions of people on this vast continent; not satisfied with the amazing profits arising from the monopoly of our trade, without giving us either time to breathe, after a long though glorious war, or the least credit for the blood and treasure we have expended in it; notwithstanding the zeal we had manifested for the service of our Sovereign, and the warmest attachment to the constitution of Britain and the people of England, a black and horrid design was formed to convert us from freemen into slaves, from subjects into vassals, and from friends into enemies.

Taxes, for the first time since we landed on the American shores, were, without our consent, imposed upon us; an unconstitutional edict to compel us to furnish necessaries for a standing army, that we wished to see disbanded, was issued, and the legislature of New-York suspended for refusing to comply with it. Our ancient and inestimable right of trial by jury was in many instances abolished, and the common law of the land made to give place to admiralty jurisdictions. Judges were rendered, by the tenure of their commissions, entirely dependent on the will of a minister. New crimes were arbitrarily created, and new courts, unknown to the constitution, instituted. Wicked and insidious Governors have been set over us; and dutiful petitions for the removal of even the notoriously infamous Governor Hutchinson, were branded with the opprobrious appellation of scandalous and defamatory. Hardy attempts have been made, under colour of parliamentary authority, to seize Americans, and carry them to Great-Britain, to be tried for offences committed in the colonies. Ancient charters have no longer remained sacred; that of the Massachusetts-Bay was violated, and their form of government essentially mutilated and transformed. On pretence of punishing a violation of some private property, committed by a few disguised individuals, the populous and flourishing town of Boston was surrounded by fleets and armies, it's trade destroyed, it's port blocked up, and 30,000 citizens subjected to all the miseries attending so sudden a convulsion in their commercial metropolis; and, to remove every obstacle to the rigorous execution of this system of oppression, an act of parliament was passed, evidently calculated to indemnify those who might, in the prosecution of it, even embrue their hands in the blood of the inhabitants.

Though pressed by such an accumulation of undeserved injuries, America still remembered her duty to her Sovereign. A Congress, consisting of deputies from twelve united colonies, assembled: They, in the most respectful terms, laid their grievances at the foot of the throne, and implored his Majesty's interposition in their behalf; they also agreed to suspend all trade with Great Britain, Ireland and the West-Indies; hoping, by this peaceable mode of opposition, to obtain that justice from the British ministry which had been so long solicited in vain. And here, permit us to assure you, that it was with the utmost reluctance we could prevail upon ourselves to cease our commercial connections with your island. Your parliament hath done us no wrong. You had ever been friendly to the rights of mankind; and we acknowledge with pleasure, and with gratitude, that your nation has produced patriots, who have nobly distinguished themselves in the cause of humanity and America. On the other hand, we were not ignorant that the labour and manufactures of Ireland, like those of the silk-worm, were of little moment to herself, but served only to give luxury to those who neither toil nor spin. We perceived, that if we continued our commerce with you, our agreement to import from Britain would be fruitless, and were therefore compelled to adopt a measure, to which nothing but absolute necessity could have reconciled us. It gave us, however, some consolation to reflect, that, should it occasion much distress, the fertile regions of America would afford you a safe asylum from poverty, and, in time, from oppression also; an asylum, in which many thousands of your countrymen have found hospitality, peace and affluence; and become united to us by all the ties of consanguinity, mutual interest and affection. Nor did the Congress stop here: Flattered by a pleasing expectation, that the justice and humanity, which had so long characterised the English nation, would on proper application, afford us relief; they represented their grievances in an affectionate address to their brethren in Britain, and entreated their aid and interposition in behalf of these colonies.

The more fully to evince their respect for their Sovereign, the unhappy people of Boston were requested by the Congress to submit with patience to their fate; and all America united in a resolution to abstain from every species of violence. During this period, that devoted town suffered unspeakably. It's inhabitants were insulted, and their property violated. Still relying on the clemency and justice of his Majesty and the nation, they permitted a few regiments to take possession of their town, to surround it with fortifications, and to cut off all intercourse between them and their friends in the country.

With anxious expectation did all America wait the event of their petition. All America laments its fate. Their Prince was deaf to their complaints; and vain were all attempts to impress him with a sense of the sufferings of his American subjects; of the cruelty of their task-masters, and of the many plagues which impended over his dominions. Instead of directions for a candid enquiry into our grievances, insult was added to oppression, and our long forbearance rewarded with the imputation of cowardice. Our trade with foreign states was prohibited; and an act of Parliament passed to prevent our even fishing on our own coasts. Our peaceable assemblies for the purpose of consulting the common safety, were declared seditious; and our asserting the very rights which placed the crown of Great-Britain on the heads of the three successive Princes of the House of Hanover, stiled rebellion. Orders were given to reinforce the troops in America. The wild and barbarous savages of the wilderness have been solicited by gifts to take up the hatchet against us, and instigated to deluge our settlements with the blood of innocent and defenceless women and children. The whole country was moreover alarmed with the expected horrors of domestic insurrections:—Refinements in parental cruelty, at which the genius of Britain must blush! Refinements which admit not even of being recited without horror or practised without infamy! We should be happy, were these dark machinations the mere suggestions of suspicion. We are sorry to declare, that we are possessed of the most authentic and indubitable evidence of their reality.

The Ministry, bent on pulling down the pillars of the constitution, endeavoured to erect the standard of despotism in America; and, if successful, Britain and Ireland may shudder at the consequences!

Three of their most experienced Generals are sent to wage war with their fellow subjects; and America is amazed to find the name of HOWE in the catalogue of her enemies:—She loved his brother.

Despairing of driving the colonies to resistance by any other means than actual hostility, a detachment of the army at Boston marched into the country in all the array of war; and, unprovoked, fired upon and killed several of the inhabitants. The neighbouring farmers suddenly assembled, and repelled the attack. From this, all communication between the town and country was intercepted. The citizens petitioned the General for permission to leave the town, and he promised, on surrendering their arms, to permit them to depart with their other effects. They accordingly surrendered their arms, and the General violated his faith. Under various pretences, passports were delayed and denied; and many thousands of the inhabitants are at this day confined in the town, in the utmost wretchedness and want. The lame, the blind, and the sick, have indeed been turned out into the neighbouring fields; and some, eluding the vigilance of the sentries, have escaped from the town, by swimming to the adjacent shores.

The war having thus began on the part of General Gage's troops, the country armed and embodied. The reinforcements from Ireland soon after arrived; a vigorous attack was then made upon the provincials. In their march the troops surrounded the town of Charlestown, consisting of about 400 houses, then recently abandoned to escape the fury of a relentless soldiery. Having plundered the houses, they set fire to the town, and reduced it to ashes. To this wanton waste of property, unknown to civilized nations, they were prompted, the better to conceal their approach under cover of the smoak: A shocking mixture of cowardice and cruelty, which then first tarnished the lustre of the British arms, when aimed at a brother's breast! But, blessed be God, they were restrained from committing farther ravages by the loss of a very considerable part of their army, including many of their most experienced officers. The loss of the inhabitants was inconsiderable.

Compelled, therefore, to behold thousands of our countrymen imprisoned, and men, women, and children, involved in promiscuous and unmerited misery; when we find all faith at an end, and sacred treaties turned into tricks of state; when we perceive our friends and kinsmen massacred, our habitations plundered, our houses in flames, and their once happy inhabitants fed only by the hand of charity; who can blame us for endeavoring to restrain the progress of desolation? Who can censure our repelling the attacks of such a barbarous band? Who, in such circumstances, would not obey the great, the universal, the divine law of self-preservation?

Though vilified as wanting spirit, we are determined to behave like men; though insulted and abused, we wish for reconciliation; though defamed as seditious, we are ready to obey the laws; and, though charged with rebellion, will cheerfully bleed in defence of our Sovereign, in a righteous cause. What more can we say? What more can we offer?

But we forbear to trouble you with a tedious detail of the various and fruitless offers and applications we have repeatedly made; not for pensions, for wealth, or for honours, but for the humble boon of being permitted to possess the fruits of honest industry, and to enjoy that degree of liberty to which God and the constitution have given us an undoubted right.

Blessed with an indissoluble union, with a variety of internal resources, and with a firm reliance on the justice of the Supreme Disposer of all human events, we have no doubt of rising superior to all the machinations of evil and abandoned Ministers. We already anticipate the golden period, when liberty, with all the gentle arts of peace and humanity, shall establish her mild dominion in this western world, and erect eternal monumeuts to the memory of those virtuous patriots and martyrs who shall have fought, and bled, and suffered in her cause.

Accept our most grateful acknowledgments for the friendly disposition you have always shewn towards us. We know that you are not without your grievances. We sympathise with you in your distress, and are pleased to find that the design of subjugating us has persuaded Administration to dispense to Ireland some vagrant rays of ministerial sunshine. Even the tender mercies of government have long been cruel towards you. In the rich pastures of Ireland many hungry parricides have fed, and grown strong to labour in its destruction. We hope the patient abiding of the meek may not always be forgotten; and God grant that the iniquitous schemes of extirpating liberty from the British empire may be soon defeated. But we should be wanting to ourselves, we should be perfidious to posterity, we should be unworthy that ancestry from which we derive our descent, should we submit, with folded arms, to military butchery and depredation, to gratify the lordly ambition, or sate the avarice of a British Ministry. In defence of our persons and properties, under actual violation, we have taken up arms. When that violence shall be removed, and hostilities cease on the part of the aggressors, they shall cease on our part also. For the atchievement of this happy event we confide in the good offices of our fellow subjects beyond the Atlantic. Of their friendly disposition we do not yet despond; aware as they must be, that they have nothing more to expect from the same common enemy than the humble favour of being last devoured.

By Order of the Congress,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

Philadelphia, July 28, 1775.

Norfolk, August 15, 1775.

FIVE POUNDS REWARD.

ON Saturday night last, 12th inst. my House was robbed of sundry wearing apparel, viz. shirts, jackets, stockings, women's gowns, silver shoe and knee buckles, and a watch No. 1356, maker's name Francis Francome; also a guinea, and about 20s. in silver. If offered for sale, as they probably will be, it is desired they may be stopt, and on conviction of the thief, the above reward shall be paid by

ROBERT BRUCE.

NEW-YORK, July 12, 1775.

TWENTY FIVE POUNDS REWARD NEW-YORK Currency.

WHEREAS on or about the 20th June last past, a certain NATHAN HOIT was entrusted by JOHN CANFIELD Esq; of Sharon in Connecticut, with a considerable sum in half Johannesses and other money, to be delivered to the Subscriber in New-York.--The said HOIT has been Captain of a sloop from Red-hook in Dutchess County to New-York for some months, and having converted part of a cargo into CASH, which he has also taken with him. He set out from this city, in the South-Amboy stage boat, on Monday the 26th of June last, and was seen at Philadelphia on the Wednesday following. HOIT is about 6 feet high, rather slim built, has reddish curl'd hair, his teeth rather forward in his mouth, speaks thick and grum, has a grim look, and walks upright, took with him one suit of light wilton clothes and others unknown, a whitish beaver hat, and a cane with a sword fixed in it. Whoever secures said NATHAN HOIT, in any of his MAJESTY'S gaols on this continent, shall be entitled to five per-cent. on the sum recovered, and the above reward of TWENTY FIVE POUNDS when convicted. Apply to Mr. Francis G. Hasinclever, Merchant in Philadelphia, Messr. Nicolson's & Kennedy Merchants in Baltimore, Messr. John Lawrence & Co. Merchants in Virginia, Messr. Alexander Gillon & Co. Merchants Charlestown, South-Carolina, or in New-York, to NICHOLAS HOFFMAN.

Also to NIEL JAMIESON, Esq; Norfolk, Virginia.

☞ It is requested of those who may have seen this NATHAN HOIT, since the 28th June last, or know any thing of the rout he has taken, that they convey the most early intelligence to any of the above gentlemen, which will be gratefully acknowledged.

All Masters of vessels are forwarned taking him off the continent.

NEWCASTLE, July 20, 1775.

RUN AWAY

FROM the subscriber on the 19th instant, an indented servant man, named PETER WILSON, about 24 years old, five feet six or seven inches high, well set and round shoulder'd, he is a native of SCOTLAND and speaks very broad, has short yellow hair and a very down look; he is a butcher by trade, a good ostler and a tolerable good weaver; he rode away a likely black horse, about five feet high with a switch tail; he carried with him a black coat of superfine broad cloath, half worn, a waistcoat and breeches of white fustian, a waistcoat of dark do. a new felt hat, a pair of country made pumps, and an old grey surtout coat very large. ——Whoever apprehends the said servant, and secures him in any of his MAJESTY'S goals, or delivers him to me at this place shall have FORTY SHILLINGS REWARD, besides what the law allows. JOHN SYME.

FIVE POUNDS REWARD.

RUN away from the Subscriber in Petersburg, some time in February last, a negro fellow named SAM, by trade a bricklayer, who formerly belonged to Mr. JAMIESON in Norfolk: He is a short thick fellow about five feet six inches high, and commonly wears a frock over his other clothes. I have great reason to suspect he is lurking about Kemp's-Landing. Whoever takes up said fellow, and conveys him to me at Petersburg, shall have the above reward paid by

RICHARD SPENCER.

NORFOLK: Printed by JOHN H. HOLT & Co. at the Printing-Office near the Market-House; where Subscriptions for this Paper are taken in at 12s. 6d. per ANNUM: Advertisements (of a moderate Length) inserted at 3s. the first Week, and 2s. each Week after.——— All Kind of Printing-Work executed in the neatest Manner with Care and Expedition; and BOOKS neatly bound on the most reasonable Terms.